

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Region One 490 N. Meridian Road Kalispell, MT 59901 (406) 752-5501 FAX: (406) 257-0349 Ref:DV200-01 August 20, 2001

TO: Environmental Quality Council, Capitol Building, Helena, 59620-1704

Dept. of Environmental Quality, Planning, Prevention & Assistance, PO Box 200901, Helena, 59620-0901

Dept. of Environmental Quality, Permitting Compliance, PO Box 200901, Helena, 59620-0901

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks: Director's Office - Chris Smith; Fisheries Division - Karen Zackheim; Legal Unit MT Historical Society, State Historic Preservation Office, 225 North Roberts, Veteran's Memorial Building, Helena, 59620-1201

Montana State Library, 1515 East Sixth Ave., Helena, 59620-1800

Jim Jensen, Montana Environmental Information Center, PO Box 1184, Helena, 59624

George Ochenski, PO Box 689, Helena, 59624

Wayne Hirst, Montana State Parks Foundation, PO Box 728, Libby, 59923

Montana State Parks Association, PO Box 699, Billings, 59103

Joe Gutkoski, President, Montana River Action Network, 304 N 18th Ave., Bozeman, 59715

Rep. Verdell Jackson, 555 Wagner Lane, Kalispell, 59901-8079

Sen. Bob DePratu, PO Box 1217, Whitefish, 59937-1217

Flathead County Commissioners, 800 S Main, Kalispell, 59901

Flathead County Library, 247 First Avenue E, Kalispell, 59901

Glen Anacker, PO Box 638, Kalispell, 59903-0638

Jim Johnson, Box 8009, Bigfork, 59911

Ted Clarke, 1656 3 Mile Drive, Kalispell, 59901

Jeff Juel, The Ecology Center, 801 Sherwood Street, Suite B, Missoula, 59802

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, Region One, has completed an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Rails to Trails of Northwest Montana project. The purpose of the project is to replace nine culverts in the Ashley Creek tributaries located at the abandoned railroad grade west of Kalispell near the town of Kila to improve public access to trails.

There were no changes to the draft EA; therefore, the draft becomes the final EA. A copy of the Decision Document is enclosed for your information.

Sincerely,

DANDINCTAL AME Daniel P. Vincent Regional Supervisor

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Enclosure

Flathead 44

DECISION NOTICE FOR RAILS TO TRAILS CULVERT REPLACEMENT PROJECT

August 20, 2001

Project proposal:

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) proposes to:

Issue a 124 permit for reinstallation of nine culverts in the Ashley Creek tributaries west of Kalispell near Kila, Montana.

Environmental Impacts of Project:

The environmental assessment (EA) for the proposed project found no potentially significant impacts.

Public Involvement:

During the 30-day comment period, we received no comments.

Decision Notice:

Due to the lack of significant impacts of the proposed project, I recommend that we issue the 124 permit.

Daniel P. Vincent, Regional Supervisor

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, Region One

Date